Rabbit Snares

dreamtime issue seven

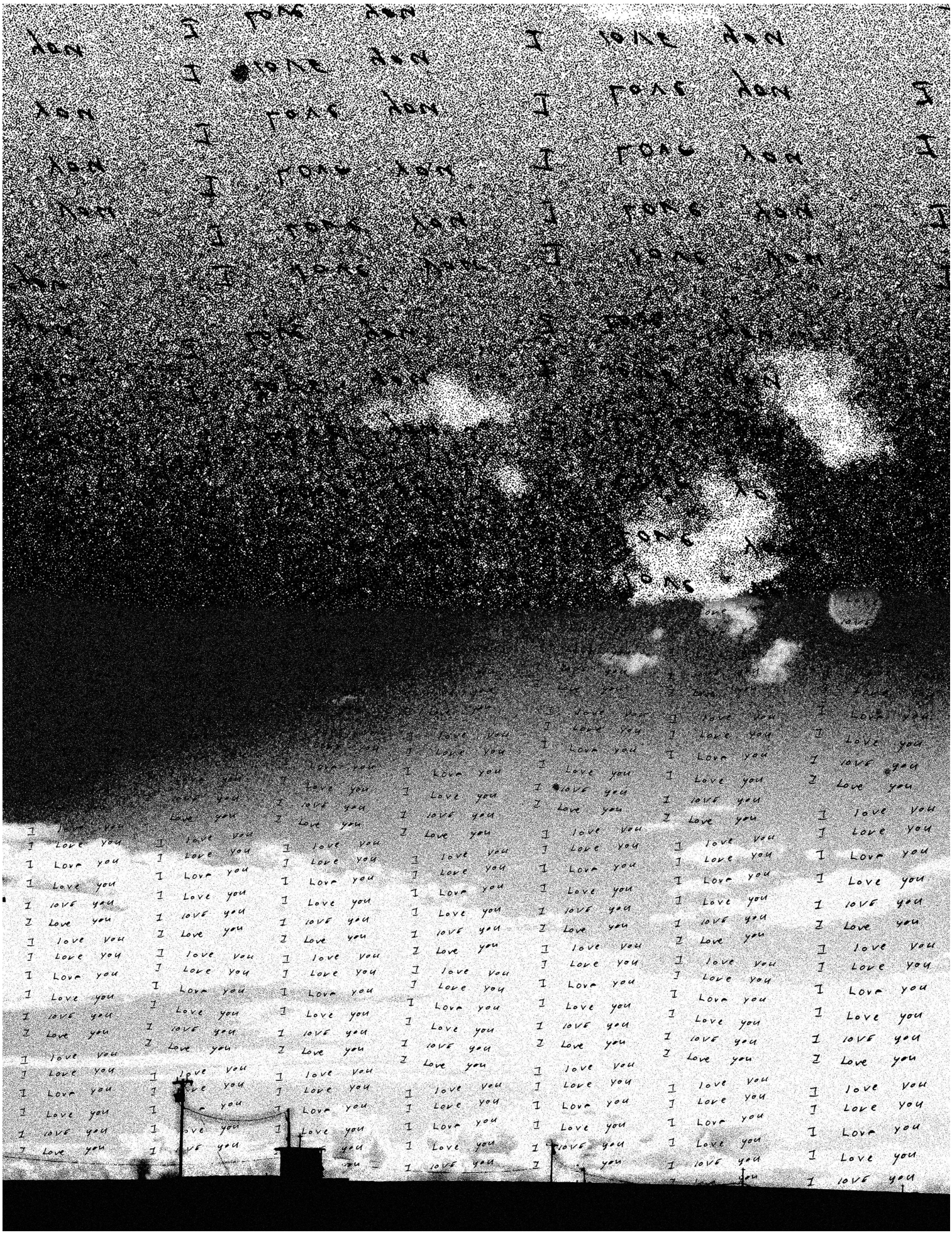
autumn white poems that whistle

This is the snare,
p r e c i o u s ,
with your skin snug and safe inside.

love me
makes hungry
keep it to yourself
lighthouse
and the lord didn't make one
feels twinkly
yellow
and look
as you like it
if you want
your skin as we lie
you can twenty times a day
asweat in bed
not enough
in the world to scrub away
I could maybe
the smell
in this happens when you'll
still have
the lord
said the
figure
the end of
and pull
the

I'm afraid of you
love me if you
the nightmare and
leap to journeyed
move
animal's
I'm afraid
I've a new kind of
they
found us,
I'd journeyed
saw our wet mouths and felt
I like that sound
you
Said Lily
me
I'll embrace
Lily
I'm

We're a new kind of animal, love. The lord didn't make one like us, one that turns hungry dogs into angels of infinite mercy. If you don't love me keep it me to yourself.
Close the door and let me in.
When they found us they saw our wet mouths and sawour full embrace, they said that they would lose us to crowded rooms-- they ran and hid when they saw what we wanted. Why are you scared?
Did you think those angels would come down and pluck you from the wheat?
Didn't the Lord look down on us and say,"Scrub all day and I can still smell it-- gasoline and sweat, gasoline and grease."If you want you can bite me and I won't move. He's the one who beset us with this blessing, this curse, that we might live to watch our skins shrivel and our teeth yellow and crack, that we might lose our minds, senile dimentia setting in and leave us just to pray that when this happens to you, you'll have somebody who loves you. When you're clawing at the edge and without escape, when there's not bleach and lye enough in the world to scrub away the smells of our skin as we lie asweat and wanting in bed.
Thunder and lighning.
I won't move.


I love you

I wept
and shine like God's children make bad
company. He was old and little
I can't
remember
all
my
secrets
but I keep my
sadness
locked
in
my
heart
I
wept
sometimes
so
I
could
water
the
orchard.
He
was
old
and
little
and
shone
like
God's
children
make
bad
company

his face was a little like a dog and
I wept
mine
I and his wings
maybe other angels look different so maybe they all have
wings
I wept
angel
I'm so sorry I know it's not enough
I wept
I wept

The angel is my angel because I found it first, wrapped in an old tablecloth and nestled in a box from the orchard. He was odd and little, hard and ossified, crusted over and smelled foul, so foul. But it was my angel . His face was a little like a dog, snub nosed and mouth agape andwet hands□ crooked. It was fleshy like a frog's round ready belly before bursting. Swollen and ponderous, my angel. Half man; half a baby and half of god's creation. I think maybe he came out from god's oven before it was finished. Maybe other angels look different, or maybe they all have mouths like cats split up the middle. He was meant to be mine. Maybe all angels have a bulging eye and they all lie sleeping in barns, prodigal and secret. My angel tells me that he was somebody else's angel before he was mine. He was trapped in their stomach for what felt like years, his milky white and glowing like a lightbulb in some quiet dark room. I keep my angel under my bed, little body right beneath mine, curled up like a mirror image. He keeps my bedroom bright and glowing. He sees things even if he can't tell me, I hear the whisper soft weeping of it in my ears. I take him out of his wooden box and hold him to my chest and we tell each other such secrets, his big head bulging and eyes milky white as glass and only I can hear him, hidden under the floorboards. His slient laughing in the warm wet nights of late summer. I know it was the church chime. I hear the forsaken gambling for this angel's whims. I think he's choking, curling his tongue in knots because□ he's sick. Can angels be sick? He smells wrong, so fetid. And it seems t o us that when I grow old that I'll be an angel too and weeping. I wept. As I am weeping my eyes grow milky and my limbs stiff and cold like his. We'll be angels. My angel is mine, all mine. I saw us mirrored and wept. I wept. I wept. I wept. I wept and we lit up the room, cold and fetid and beautiful and bright.

You may close this book,
p r e c i o u s ,
but you'll only be shutting the trap.
This skin stays with me.

Run, darling, run. Your soul will join the
t h o u s a n d .

This is a collection of writhing prose poems. I cut out paper snowflakes and wrote short frightening poems along their frail white viens. They are meant to be flipped over, followed and traced, hunted until you are finished. There is no correct beginning and end. I have included "translations" in more conventional prose format, but these are not 1:1 copies of the original poem. Some things are missing, some things are added. You must circle the subject like a hungry dog to be satisfied, my sweet.

Autumn White 2026

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